

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 158 – SB 183

March 24, 2015

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Prohibits teachers and certain other local education agency employees from displaying political advertising and other related materials on behalf of any party, committee, agency, or candidate for public office in a building or on property owned by a local education agency (LEA). This prohibition does not apply to political and campaign materials that are used as part of instruction materials related to the electoral process.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004276): Deletes and rewrites Section 5 of the original bill, and adds a new section to the original bill, that makes various changes including a declaration that Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-19-206, subsections (a), (b), and (c), shall not apply to teachers, and establishing a prohibition for teachers from displaying political advertising and other related materials on behalf of any party, committee, agency, or candidate for public office in a facility or property owned by a local education agency (LEA). This prohibition does not apply to political and campaign materials that are used as part of instruction material related to the electoral process, and does not apply to teachers during hours in which they are not performing school duties. Teachers may display decals or bumper stickers on their personal vehicle. In addition, the amended bill states that Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-19-207 subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to teachers, and it establishes a prohibition for teachers from participating in political or campaign activities during those hours of the day in which an LEA requires a teacher to be performing school duties. This prohibition does not prevent teachers from voting during school hours or from performing such activities when a teacher is on leave or not required to be performing school duties. Further, LEAs are prohibited from promulgating rules and regulations that would be more restrictive than the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original bill.

Assumption for the bill as amended:

- The changes set forth in the bill, as amended, will have no fiscal impact on state or local government operations.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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